

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

USIA-15 AID-20 SAM-01 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 /138 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:DKUX:EI

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

NEA:LBLAINGEN

S/S :JPMOFFAT

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R 262319Z P 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY DACCA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 213160

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NP, IN, US

SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH NEPALESE FOREIGN
MINISTER

1. SUMMARY: UNDER SECRETARY SISCO CALLED ON NEPALESE
FOREIGN MINISTER KARKI SEPTEMBER 24 IN NEW YORK. NEPALESE
UN AMBASSADOR UPADHYAY AND KUX, NEA/INS, SAT IN. DIS-
CUSSION FOCUSED ON CURRENT U.S. EFFORTS TO TACKLE GLOBAL
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS CAUSED BY OIL PRICE INCREASES. KARKI
SHARED U.S. CONCERN ABOUT NEED FOR ACTION. SISCO AND KARKI
EXPRESSED SATISFACTION ABOUT CONTINUED GOOD U.S.-NEPALESE
RELATIONS. KARKI VOICED CONCERN OVER INDIAN ABSORPTION OF
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SIKKIM. END SUMMARY.

2. KARKI EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR CONCERNS ABOUT PROBLEMS ARISING FROM OIL PRICES VOICED BY PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY IN UN SPEECHES. KARKI NOTED THAT ARABS HAD FAILED SO FAR TO PROVIDE MEANINGFUL HELP TO LDC'S DESPITE PROMISES THEY WOULD DO SO. SISCO URGED NEPALESE TO EXPRESS THEIR CONCERNS IN PUBLIC FORA SUCH AS UNGA, NOTING THAT THIS WOULD BE USEFUL ASSIST TO EFFORTS U.S. HAS NOW LAUNCHED FOR GREATER CONSUMER/PRODUCER COOPERATION.

3. SISCO REVIEWED A NUMBER OF CURRENT ISSUES EXPECTED TO COME UP DURING UNGA SESSION AND IN THIS CONTEXT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT NEPAL WOULD SEE WAY CLEAR AT LEAST TO ABSTAIN ON BOTH KHMER AND KOREAN QUESTIONS.

4. ON SOUTH ASIA MATTERS, KARKI SAID NEPALESE ECONOMY BADLY HIT BY INFLATION. ECONOMIC DISTRESS IN INDIA ALSO MATTER OF CONCERN BECAUSE OF STIMULUS TO SMUGGLING. KARKI SAID NEPALESE WERE WORRIED BY INDIAN ABSORPTION OF SIKKIM WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS CLEVERLY MANAGED AND DELIBERATELY STAGED. HE EMPHASIZED THAT SENTIMENTS ON SIKKIM RAN VERY DEEP IN NEPAL.

5. SISCO CALLED KARKI'S ATTENTION TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON'S REMARKS ON NEPAL DURING SEPTEMBER 19 HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS HEARINGS. (TEXT TRANSMITTED STATE 209456) HE NOTED WORDS WERE CHOSEN CAREFULLY AS MEANS OF VOICING U.S. SUPPORT FOR NEPALESE INDEPENDENCE IN CONTEXT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. KARKI EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR U.S. POSITION ON NEPAL AND EMPHASIZED VALUE NEPAL PLACED ON CONTINUED U.S. PRESENCE AND GOOD RELATIONS.

6. KARKI ASKED ABOUT CURRENT STATUS INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. SISCO SAID THAT THESE WERE IMPROVING. AT SAME TIME, HE NOTED THAT INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST HAD CAUSED SEVERE CONGRESSIONAL CRITICISM ABOUT REQUEST FOR \$75 MILLION FOR DEVELOPMENT LENDING TO INDIA AND ADDED TO POOR INDIAN IMAGE IN U.S. NONETHELESS, U.S. FELT IT IN OUR INTEREST TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND PROGRESS BEING MADE. CONFIDENTIAL

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KARKI SAID NEPAL WELCOMED THIS AND SAW A HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS INDIA IN NEPAL'S INTEREST.

7. SISCO ALSO GAVE FONMIN SHORT ACCOUNT OF WHERE MATTERS STAND ON MIDDLE EAST AND CYPRUS. KISSINGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, INFLATION, PETROLEUM, PRICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE213160
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DKUX:EI
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D740272-1029
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740984/aaaahqjn.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 APR 2002 by garlanwa>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971128
Subject: UNDER SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH NEPALESE FOREIGN MINISTER
TAGS: PFOR, IN, NP, US
To: KATHMANDU INFO COLOMBO
DACCA
ISLAMABAD
NEW DELHI
USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

